

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A seal ring to be mounted in a ring groove provided on an outer circumferential surface of a shaft, the seal ring receiving a pressure from oil supplied to the ring groove at its pressure-receiving side face and its inner circumferential face to achieve sealing by its contact side face which is opposite to the pressure-receiving side face and comes into contact with a wall face of the ring groove and its outer circumferential face, wherein

~~at least the contact side face of the seal ring includes concave portions distanced away from each other in a circumferential direction and column portions between the concave portions~~

a plurality of circumferentially extending concaves are provided along an inner circumferential part of the contact side face and separated from each other along the circumference of the side face by columnar surfaces,

each end of each of said plurality of circumferentially extending concaves converges with a surface of the side face to form a converging point, adjacent converging points being separated from each other by said columnar surface,

~~and each of said column portions between the concave portions~~  
columnar surfaces extends radially outwardly from a line extending  
between adjacent converging points to an outer circumferential edge  
of the side face,

each of the ~~concave portions is~~ concaves is formed by a first  
deepest inclined portion provided in ~~[[an]]~~ the inner  
circumferential part of the side face of the seal ring and ~~a~~  
~~converging portion arranged on both sides of the deepest inclined~~  
~~portion in the circumferential direction,~~ the first deepest  
inclined portion being provided to reduce a thickness of the seal  
ring toward an inner circumference of the seal ring, ~~each of the~~  
~~converging portions converging to a point of an adjacent column~~  
~~portion that is the closest to the inner circumference of the seal~~  
~~ring,~~ and

a second inclined portion is provided on an inner  
circumferential side of the ~~each column portion and the converging~~  
~~portion~~ columnar surface and extends radially inwardly from said  
line extending between adjacent converging points to the inner  
circumferential edge of the side face of the seal ring to reduce  
the thickness of the seal ring toward the inner circumference of  
the seal ring.

2. (currently amended) The seal ring according to claim 1, wherein

an inclination angle measured with respect to a plane perpendicular to the axial center of the seal ring of the first deepest inclined portion is in the range from  $8^{\circ}$  to  $45^{\circ}$ , and a dimension (L) between an outermost point of the first deepest inclined portion in the radial direction and the outer circumferential face of the seal ring is 0.4 mm or larger and is equal to or smaller than  $2/3$  of the thickness (a1) of the seal ring in the radial direction.

3. (currently amended) The seal ring according to claim 1, wherein

an inclination angle measured with respect to a plane perpendicular to the axial center of the seal ring of the second inclined portion is in the range from  $8^{\circ}$  to  $60^{\circ}$ , and a dimension (M) of the second inclined portion in the radial direction is in the range from  $1/5$  to  $1/2$  of a dimension (a1 - L) from the inner circumference of the seal ring to an outermost point of the first deepest inclined portion in the radial direction, where a1 is the thickness of the seal ring in the radial direction and L is a dimension between an outermost point of the first deepest inclined

portion in the radial direction and the outer circumferential face of the seal ring.

4. (currently amended) The seal ring according to claim 1, wherein

a width of the first deepest inclined portion in the circumferential direction is 8 to 50 times as large as a width of the second inclined portion in the circumferential direction, and a number of the ~~concave portions~~ concaves included in said contact side face of the seal ring is in the range from 4 to 16.

5. (currently amended) The seal ring according to claim 2, wherein

an inclination angle measured with respect to a plane perpendicular to the axial center of the seal ring of the second inclined portion is in the range from 8° to 60°, and a dimension (M) of the second inclined portion in the radial direction is in the range from 1/5 to 1/2 of a dimension (a1 - L) from the inner circumference of the seal ring to an outermost point of the first deepest inclined portion in the radial direction.

6. (currently amended) The seal ring according to claim 2, wherein

a width of the first deepest inclined portion in the circumferential direction is 8 to 50 times as large as a width of the second inclined portion in the circumferential direction, and a number of the ~~concave portions~~ concaves included in said contact side face of the seal ring is in the range from 4 to 16.

7. (currently amended) The seal ring according to claim 3, wherein

a width of the first deepest inclined portion in the circumferential direction is 8 to 50 times as large as a width of the second inclined portion in the circumferential direction, and a number of the ~~concave portions~~ concaves included in said contact side face of the seal ring is in the range from 4 to 16.

8. (currently amended) The seal ring according to claim 5, wherein

a width of the first deepest inclined portion in the circumferential direction is 8 to 50 times as large as a width of the second inclined portion in the circumferential direction, and

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a number of the ~~concave portions~~ concaves included in said contact  
side face of the seal ring is in the range from 4 to 16.